

LIQUOR ADVISORY BOARD
Wednesday, February 20, 2008
6:00 P.M. – City Council Chambers
Rockford City Hall, 425 East State Street

Present:

LAB Members:

Fred Money
Tom Przytulski
Dan Roszkowski
Julio Salgado
Craig Sockwell

Absent:

William Orr
Alice Howard

Staff:

Todd Cagnoni – Manager of Current Planning
Sandra Hawthorne – Administrative Assistant
Jon Hollander - City Engineer, Public Works
Kerry Partridge – City Attorney
Jennifer Cacciapaglia – City Attorney, Liquor Commission
Frank Schmitt – Chief, Fire Prevention Division

Others:

Kathy Berg, Stenographer
Applicants and Interested Parties

The meeting started at 6:00 P.M. A **MOTION** was made by Fred Money to **APPROVE** the minutes of the January 15, 2008 meeting as submitted. The Motion was **SECONDED** by Tom Przytulski and **CARRIED** by a vote of 5-0, with Alice Howard and William Orr absent.

08-LAB-002 CVS Pharmacy/Caremark, 110 South Alpine Road

Applicant Atty. Tom Meyer for G.B. Illinois 2, LLC
Ward 14 Request for sale of packaged liquor in conjunction with a retail pharmacy in a C-3,
Commercial General Zoning District.
Laid Over from January meeting

The subject property is located at the southeast corner of the intersection of East State Street and South Alpine Road. Attorney Tom Meyer and Lee Winter were present. Attorney Meyer explained that the CVS Store on East State Street is being closed and a new one will be constructed at this address. The applicant is requesting the sale of packaged liquor in conjunction with this store, as is allowed at the current one. .

Staff Recommendation was for Approval with 2 conditions. No Objectors were present. Neither Attorney Cacciapaglia or the Board had any questions for the Applicant.

A **MOTION** was made by Tom Przytulski to **APPROVE** the sale of packaged liquor in conjunction with a retail pharmacy in a C-3, Commercial General Zoning District at 110 South Alpine Road. The Motion was **SECONDED** by Fred Money and **CARRIED** by a vote of 5-0.

Approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. Meeting all applicable liquor codes.
2. No alcohol sales shall be permitted thru the drive-thru window.

08-LAB-004 M & M Market & Deli, 627 and 629 Montague Street
Applicant M & M Market & Deli, Inc. / Brenda Martin
Ward 5 Request for building addition for a facility that sells packaged
 liquor in a C-2, Commercial Community Zoning District.
 Laid Over from January meeting

The subject property is located on the northeast corner of Montague Street and West Street. Maurice Martin, Applicant, reviewed his request for liquor sales. Mr. Martin is expanding the deli area which requires his request.

Staff Recommendation was for Approval with no conditions. No Objectors were present. Neither Attorney Cacciapaglia. The Board asked if liquor sales would pertain to the deli, to which the Applicant responded that it did not. Due to the expansion of the building itself and because this is a change to the building and package liquor is sold within the building, a request is necessary.

A **MOTION** was made by Fred Money to **APPROVE** the building addition for a facility that sells packaged liquor in a C-2, Commercial Community Zoning District at 627 and 629 Montague Street. The Motion was **SECONDED** by Craig Sockwell and **CARRIED** by a vote of 5-0.

08-LAB-006 John Rosenbloom / 317-325 West Jefferson Street
Applicant John Rosenbloom
Ward 3 Request for sale of alcohol by the drink in conjunction with a nightclub
 (entertainment venue) in a C-4, Commercial Old Town Zoning District

The subject property is located on the north side of West Jefferson Street, west of North Main Street, and east of North Church Street. Attorney Nancy Hyzer and John Rosenbloom were present. Attorney Hyzer explained that Mr. Rosenbloom has experience in the music industry and would like to bring an entertainment venue to downtown Rockford. His business plan is to provide live music in a nightclub / entertainment venue atmosphere, with the intention of opening 3 or 4 nights a week and move up to 6 nights per week as business progresses. The business will target those in the 16 to 35 year old group. Attorney Hyzer explained when the venue is open to all ages, wrist bands will be used to identify those individuals under the age of 18 and alcohol will not be served to them. Performances will end an hour before curfew to allow those individuals sufficient time to get home. Mr. Rosenbloom will provide training for his staff as well as security guards. It is his intention to employ a sufficient amount of guards to control both inside and outside occupants. Mr. Rosenbloom has met with Deputy Chief Mike Booker who has reviewed and supports his plan. Attorney Hyzer stated Deputy Chief Booker has agreed to assign a community police officer to help Mr. Rosenbloom coordinate security. Mr. Rosenbloom explained the sale of admission tickets will lower the risk of those "troublemakers" who tend not to attend functions where there is an admission fee. The Applicant is agreeable to Staff conditions of approval.

Attorney Cacciapaglia had no questions for the Applicant. Tom Przytulski asked what the second floor of the building would be used as. Mr. Rosenbloom replied he is considering establishing a couple of "green rooms" for the entertainment groups and perhaps an office for himself. Craig Sockwell asked the Applicant how soon he could get additional security if the crowd becomes larger than anticipated. In response, Mr. Rosenbloom stated it is his plan to have a group of potential security guards on call, depending on the event. He agrees that it is his responsibility to have the amount of security available in comparison to the crowds. The amount of tickets sold would provide him with the amount of security needed.

Staff Recommendation was for Approval with 4 conditions. No Objectors were present.

A **MOTION** was made by Fred Money to **APPROVE** the sale of alcohol by the drink in conjunction with a nightclub (entertainment venue) in a C-4, Commercial Old Town Zoning District at 317-325 West Jefferson Street. The Motion was **SECONDED** by Tom Przytulski and **CARRIED** by a vote of 5-0.

Approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. Meet all applicable Building and Fire Codes.
2. Compliance with all City of Rockford Liquor Codes.
3. Submittal of a security plan for Staff review and approval.
4. The sale of alcohol shall be limited to the interior site plan submitted.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Hawthorne, Administrative Assistant
Liquor Advisory Board